



WHITSTONE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter Spring Term - Issue 3



MESSAGE FROM MRS MOULD

Despite the daily down pours of heavy rain this week, the children have managed with indoor playtimes when necessary. Games, lego, colouring, reading and crafts have kept the children entertained. It was lovely to see the older children playing with the younger children...one of many advantages of being a small community school. Please don't miss our weekly 'Class Spotlight' in the newsletter where each class will be sharing their current learning. Last week we read all about Voyagers' adventures and this week it's Trailblazers turn.



See you all next week for another week of learning, growing and achieving together.

Best wishes, Mrs Mould



TERM DATES

Spring Term

Monday 5th January - Thursday 2nd April
(Half term Monday 16th - Friday 20th February)

Summer Term

Monday 20th April - Friday 17th July

INSET Days: Monday 20th July - Thursday 23rd July



EVENTS COMING UP...

Wednesday 28th January - Family Worker drop ins

Wednesday 4th February - Sports Hall Athletics Y6

Children's Mental Health Week - 9th - 15th February



Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day



ATTENDANCE

Explorers	98%
Voyages	98%
Adventurers	96%
Trailblazers	97%



HOUSE POINTS

Atlantic	298
Sahara	313
Amazon	253
Krakatoa	297



BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to...
Olivia





CERTIFICATE AWARDS



REMINDERS

As the weather continues to be chilly, please ensure your child comes to school with a warm and waterproof coat, including optional extras like hats, scarves, and gloves.



REMINDERS

PE Days:

Explorers: Monday

Voyagers: Monday

Adventurers: Wednesday and Friday

Trailblazers: Thursday and Friday



REMINDERS



Any child with diarrhoea and/or vomiting symptoms must stay away or be excluded from the school until they have been free of symptoms for 48 hours (the '48 hour rule') and feel well. If your child is sick at school, we will ask you or your emergency contact to take your child home. They should not return for 48 hours to the school premises. We appreciate that this is inconvenient in many cases, and you may not believe your child is ill, but you will appreciate that we do this in all cases and it should reduce the risk of infection for all children in school.



TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

We would like to remind all parents that holidays taken during term time are not considered exceptional circumstances and will result in unauthorised absence. If your child is absent without authorisation, it may lead to penalties under the Education Act 1996. Unauthorised absences could result in a penalty fine issued as £80 per liable parent, per child if paid within 21 days, or £160 per liable parent, per child if paid after this but within 28 days.

Please read the statutory statement regarding unauthorised absence during term time.

If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days. If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3-year period, you will be committing a further offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices for a second offence are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £160, payable within 28 days. Importantly, fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs. Absence not authorised by the school may also result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Again, Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs. Money raised from fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.



SPRING TERM CLUBS

We are excited to offer a variety of clubs this Spring Term, providing opportunities for enrichment and social interaction outside of the classroom:

- Daily Breakfast Club
- Monday: Games Club
- Tuesday: Wellbeing Club
- Wednesday: Year 6 SATs Club
- Thursday: Computing Club
- Friday: Film Club



All clubs, except for the SATs Club, are £2 per child per session. Please book and pay through Arbor.

NURSERY PLACES

We are pleased to announce that we have spaces available in our Nursery for children aged 2 to 4 years, with funded places for up to 30 hours.

If you are interested or know someone who might be, please don't hesitate to contact the school office on 01288 341241 or email school@whitstone.cornwall.sch.uk.



SCHOOL DINNER SURVEY

You should all have received a paper copy of our School Dinner Survey. Please do take a few minutes to complete the survey and return it to us, please. This will really help us to know how we can increase our school meal uptake, particularly at Key Stage 2.

Thank you to those of you who have already completed and return these. We look forward to more being returned next week.



SAFE PARKING

For the safety of our children and the surrounding community, we kindly ask that parents do not park on the zigzag lines outside the school or block neighbours' driveways. We have received complaints from neighbours in recent months, and we appreciate your cooperation in maintaining a safe environment during drop-off and pick-up times.

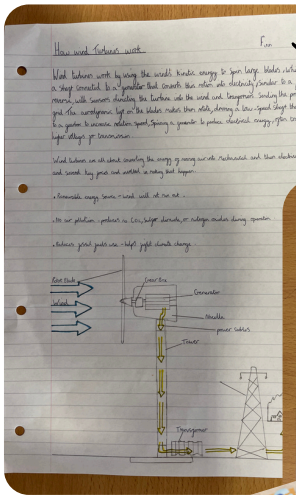
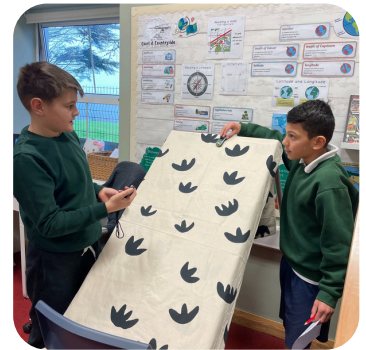
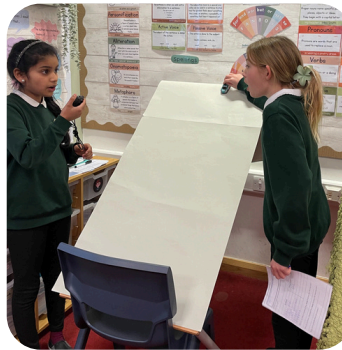
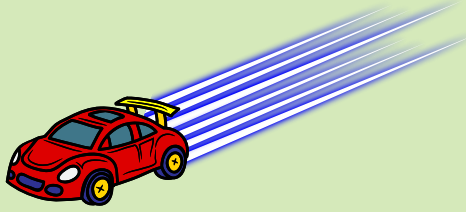
Respecting our neighbours and ensuring safe access to the school is crucial for the well-being of our children. We encourage families to walk or cycle to school where possible. Thank you for your understanding and support in fostering a positive community spirit!



CLASS SPOTLIGHT

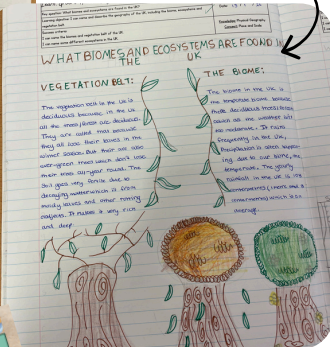
Science: Forces

This half term, Trailblazers will be exploring the topic of forces in science. This week's focus was friction. The children conducted an experiment testing the resistance of different materials down a ramp vs toy cars.



Fabulous topic homework by Finley

First Geography lesson of the term - beautifully presented by Danielle



COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE HOMEWORK GRID			
LEARNING OBJECTIVES & SKILLS	INFORMATION	NOTES	QUESTIONS & CHALLENGES
<p>How do I know? Create an information card about the topic of Coast and Countryside (using a template provided).</p>	<p>How do I know? Create an information card about the topic of Coast and Countryside (using a template provided).</p>	<p>Coastal Ecosystems Research how different coastal ecosystems are adapted to their environment.</p>	<p>Coastal Ecosystems Research how different coastal ecosystems are adapted to their environment.</p>
<p>How do I know? Create an information card about the topic of Coast and Countryside (using a template provided).</p>	<p>How do I know? Create an information card about the topic of Coast and Countryside (using a template provided).</p>	<p>Coastal Ecosystems Research how different coastal ecosystems are adapted to their environment.</p>	<p>Coastal Ecosystems Research how different coastal ecosystems are adapted to their environment.</p>

NEW TOPIC!

Spring term brings us our new Geography driven topic - Coast and Countryside.

The children will be learning about our local geography and it's biodiversity. We will then move our focus to plastic pollution and how it effects our local environment.

Trailblazers have been given their topic homework grid - we look forward to seeing some creations brought in!



Coast & Countryside